ED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE In Re U.S. Patent Application APR 2 3 2001 Applicants: Singhal, et al. Technology Center 2600 Serial No.: 09/697,276 I hereby certify that this correspondence October 26, 2000 is being deposited with the United States Filed: Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner of Patents, For: Modifications in the Multi-Band Excitation (MBE) Model for Generating ) Washington, D.C. 20231 on: High Quality Speech at Low Bit Rates April 13, 2001.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Attorney Docket: 7416/78599

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97, a list of documents is disclosed on the attached Form PTO-1449. Documents for which the supplied date of publication lists the year of publication without the month were published sufficiently earlier than the effective U.S. filing date and any foreign priority date, so that the particular month of publication is not in issue. Pursuant to §609 of the MPEP, it is understood that the month of publication is not required when the particular month of publication is not in issue.

No inferences should be drawn that the attached list represents a comprehensive investigation, or that any material disclosed is equivalent to, anticipates, or renders obvious the subject invention.

The cited documents disclose numerous specific features. There has been no attempt to list each and every feature disclosed by each document. The Examiner is requested to review the

documents and determine the extent of the materiality of the document disclosures with respect to the present invention.

The citation of any documents herein is not to be construed as an admission that the art or document disclosure is necessarily within the invention field of endeavor, that the art or document disclosure is necessarily prior in time to a particular date which may be relevant to the instant patent application, and/or that the art or document disclosure is otherwise necessarily prior art as defined by the patent law with respect to the instant invention and application.

Also, there is reserved the right to later set forth how the instant invention is distinguished over the disclosure of any document or other art, including the disclosures of the art and documents recited herein, that may be cited by the Examiner in rejecting a claim in the instant patent application. The recitation herein of the art and document(s) is not to be construed as an assertion that more pertinent art could not possibly be in existence.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: April 13, 2001

Maitreya P. Jani, Esq. Registration No. 47,219

WELSH & KATZ, LTD. 120 South Riverside Plaza 22<sup>nd</sup> Floor Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone:

312/655-1500

Facsimile:

312/655-1501